

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 6-35 are pending in the present application.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 27, 31 and 32 and the indication that claims 1-3, 6, 7, 9-20, 22-26, 28-30 and 33-35 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under Section 112, second paragraph. Applicants have so rewritten the independent claims to address the contended indefiniteness of the claims, and respectfully submit that these claims are now in condition for allowance.

Claims Withdrawn Upon Election of Species.

Claims 8 and 21 were previously withdrawn as being directed to non-elected species of generic claims 1 and 19, both of which are now believed to be allowable. Claims 8 and 21 have been amended in the preamble to correspond to the other claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that claims 8 and 21 be reinstated into the application and that their allowability be indicated together with the allowability of the remaining claims.

Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph**1. Claims 1, 14, 19, 25 and 33.**

Claims 1, 14, 19, 25 and 33 are amended herein to recite in the preamble, "A resealable closure for on a container..." in response to the rejections under Section 112, second paragraph. While Applicants consider that the claims were clear as originally drafted, Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment of the claims addresses and overcomes this ground of rejection, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested. This is not a narrowing amendment, but is simply a clarification of what has been claimed since the filing of the application. Consistent with the amendment of the independent claims, the dependent claims simply recite "A resealable closure as in claim _". This is believed to correctly refer to the "resealable closure on a container" recited in the independent claims, thereby to comport with Section 112, second paragraph. This is considered to address and overcome the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejections of the claims on this ground is respectfully requested.

2. Claims 28-30

Claims 28-30 have been amended to refer to the "resealable container of claim 27". This is considered to address and overcome the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection of these claims on this ground is respectfully requested.

3. Claim 15

Regarding claim 15, Applicants have not amended this claim, because it is the belief of Applicants that there is no contradiction between the limitations of claims 1 and 15. Claim 1 recites that the releasable adhesive layer is directly and releasably attached to the lower surface of the release liner and wherein the releasable adhesive is a pressure-sensitive adhesive having a peel strength in the range from about 0.4 to about 0.9 pounds per inch. Obviously, the releasable adhesive must be adhered to some other surface. Claim 15 recites that the releasable adhesive adheres to the main body portion or to the extended body portion with a peel strength greater than one pound per inch. This is the other surface to which the releasable adhesive is attached. There is no contradiction. The releasable adhesive simply adheres more strongly to the main body portion or to the extended body portion more strongly than it adheres to the release liner. This makes sense and would be understood by any person of skill in the art, since a release surface is intended to release the adhesive, and if the adhesive had the same strength of adhesion to both surfaces, there would be no control over where it remains and it might not remain in a cohesive form, some adhesive remaining on one surface, some on the other surface, when the two surfaces are separated. Applicants respectfully submit that there is nothing indefinite about claim 15 vis-a-vis claim 1, and respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

In the alternative, if the Examiner is not persuaded by the foregoing explanation that there is no indefiniteness, Applicants' undersigned attorney requests the Examiner to telephone the attorney to discuss how the claims might be amended to more clearly recite the relative peel strengths in a manner satisfactory to both the Examiner and the Applicants.

Conclusion

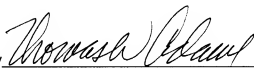
Applicants respectfully submit that, for the reasons set forth above, all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request notice to such effect.

In the event issues arise as a result of the filing of this paper, or if any issues remain in the prosecution of this application, Applicants request that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney to expedite allowance of the application. Should any additional fees be required for the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account #18-0988, Docket No. AVERP3012US.

Respectfully submitted,

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